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## Section II: **REMARKS**

It is respectfully requested that the changes as noted above in Section I be made to the present application.

The present amendment is in response to an Interview with the Examiner conducted on October 23, 2007 following applicant's Appeal Brief filed July 31, 2007. During the Interview, it was agreed that the present application would be allowed if the subject matter contained in claim 14 and claim 13 was merged into the independent claims 1, 16 and 24. As herein amended, the subject matter of claims 13 and 14 has been merged into independent claims 1, 16 and 24 and accordingly claims 1, 16 and 24, as herein amended, are believed to be in condition for allowance.

Claims 13, 14 and 15 have herein been cancelled without prejudice.

The remaining dependent claims 2-12 and 17-23 depend from and include all of the limitations of independent claims 1 and 16, respectively, in addition to the even further limitations set forth in the dependent claims themselves. Thus, as herein amended, it is believed that dependent claims 2-12 and 17-23 are also in condition for allowance.

Thus, it is submitted that claims 1-12 and 16-24, as herein amended, are believed to be in condition for allowance, an early notice of which is hereby requested. If any outstanding issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting the allowance of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number

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indicated below in order to allow the applicant the opportunity to further amend the claims by Supplemental Amendment or Examiner's Amendment, as may be appropriate, to place the claims in condition for allowance. The Examiner's attention to this matter is greatly appreciated.

Respectfully submitted,

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